



THE 12th DAVID ZOFCHAK MEMORIAL was held on November 17-18 at the Holiday Inn Patriot in Williamsburg. Thirty-five players participated, including seven scholastic players. Steve Greanias, from Alexandria, was the only master entered in the event and he duly finished 1st with a perfect 5-0 score. Andrew Johnson & Andy Chan tied for 2nd with 4-1. In a sense Chan had the best result of anyone in the tournament, considering his starting rating of 1374. He is an EM1 stationed on the USS Eisenhower CV-69 and just returned from an overseas deployment.

Other prize winners included Jorn Langheinrich (who lost an interesting game to Andrew Johnson in the last round), Jon Leisner, Harvey Jenkins, Dimitar Vlassarev, and Vernon Stevens. The 1st place scholastic trophy was won by Illinna Nikolova and her sister Ettie won 2nd scholastic. Congratulations and best wishes go to young Christian Compton for playing in his first open event. I would not be surprised to see him become a force in area scholastics events in short order.

A particle physicist from Bonn, Germany, Langheinrich took the opportunity to play in the tournament while here on a business trip. Back home he is an active participant on the Bonn city chess team.

I want to thank all the players, as I had fun directing the event and watching the games. Special thanks go to Tom Braunlich, who donated the expert prize. It was especially nice to see Woody Harris have a chance to get out from behind the TD desk and play.

The site was spacious and the hotel staff was very helpful. Several players took advantage of the venue by bringing along family to enjoy the Williamsburg area's many attractions while they played chess. This was the first time this event has been held in Williamsburg. Previously it was in the Virginia Beach area, eg, last year's event was held at the Virginia Beach campus of the Tidewater Community College (current site of the Tidewater Chess Club). David Zofchak was a player, tournament director, and organizer who lived in Virginia Beach. Prior to his death in 1986 David worked very hard promoting chess in the Hampton Roads area, and the tournament is named in his memory.

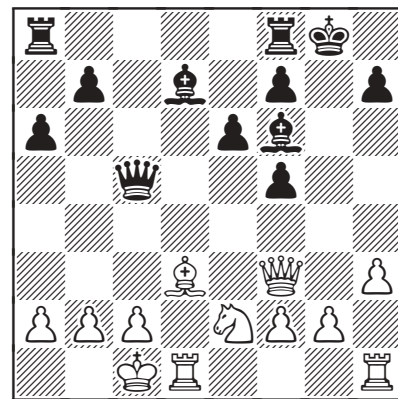
12th

DAVID ZOFCHAK MEMORIAL

by Ernie Schlich

TOM BRAUNLICH - STEVE GREANIAS TROMPOVSKY

(The penultimate round game between the tournament's two top-rated players.) 1 d4 Nf6 2 Bg5 e6 3 e4 d6 4 Nc3 Be7 5 Nf3 Nbd7 6 h3 O-O 7 Qd2 c5 8 O-O-O cxd4 9 Qxd4 a6 10 e5 dxe5 11 Nxe5 Nxe5 12 Qxe5 Qb6 13 Bd3 Qc5 14 Bxf6 gxf6 15 Qe4 f5 16 Qf3 Bf6 17 Ne2 Bd7



18 Bxf5? (an incorrect combination) exf5 19 Rxd7 Bxb2+! (The refutation; if 20 Kxb2 Qb5+ and Qxd7) 20 Kb1 Rac8 21 Qb3 Bg7 22 Rxb7 Qe5 0-1

[We'll have a couple more games from this event next issue. -ed]



Last issue we reported Rusty Potter's capturing of the state championship for the third time in his long and eventful career. Here the champ treats Virginia Chess readers to a very personal account of how it happened!

THE INNER RUSTY

by John Russell Potter

FOR THE PREVIOUS MONTH, a number of my friends and students would give me the same pep talk with variations on the same theme: "All right, Russ. We wancha to go up there and win that State Championship for us folks out here in Southwest Virginia. We're countin' on ya coach. We know you can do it!," and so forth. Always, I would smile weakly and the same thought would form silently in my mind: *clearly, you are all on drugs*. Since my game against GM Pavel Blatny in Virginia Beach in early March, I had not pushed a pawn in rated chess or played one speed game on the Internet, or even studied so much as one hour for myself. My life had been consumed by searching for, finding, and moving into, expanded quarters for my self and my growing small business.

A friend who knew the real story asked me the week before I left, "Have you ever been *less* prepared for a state championship in your life?"

"Never," I answered.

"So why are you going?"

"Well, this one has a title attached to it, after all."

Round 1

As I packed, I realistically thought that a tie for 4th or 5th place, winning back my entry fee, was not *too* unreasonable a goal. On the day of the drive up to Charlottesville I did nothing special except listen to an hour's worth of parrotthead songs by Jimmy Buffet on my car's aging tape cassette. Finally, round 1, and a game I call *The Swinging Bishop*.

EDWARD LUPIENSKI - RUSTY POTTER

ENGLISH

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 c5 3 Nf3 cxd4 4 Nxd4 e6 5 Nc3 Bb4 6 Qc2 (White is angling to transpose into the Qc2 variation Nimzoindian, but the move does not harmonize well with his need to maintain control over d4. The standard 6 Bd2 was better.)
6...Nc6 7 Nxc6? (With this exchange White pointlessly undermines his own pawn center. The somewhat passive but solid 7 e3 was better.)

7...bxc6 8 a3 Be7! (Many amateurs assume that the point of a pin must necessarily be to follow through with a capture. Not true. Here's why: if a pin reduces the energy of the opponent's army to the point where a strategically significant goal has been achieved (here, the strengthening of Black's pawn center), it is better to 'waste' the tempo than give up bishop for knight in a non-closed position such as this.)
9 b4? a5! (Attacking a more central pawn with a wing pawn is known

VIRGINIA CHESS Newsletter

2001 - Issue #6

Editor:

Macon Shibut
8234 Citadel Place
Vienna VA 22180
mshibut@dgs.dgsys.com

Circulation:

Roger Mahach
7901 Ludlow Ln
Dunn Loring, VA 22027
rmahach@vachess.org



Virginia Chess is published six times per year by the Virginia Chess Federation. VCF membership dues (\$10/yr adult; \$5/yr junior) include a subscription to *Virginia Chess*. Send material for publication to the editor. Send dues, address changes, etc to Circulation.



as ‘undermining.’ White has made a queen move, four pawn moves, and three moves with the same knight! Therefore it was imperative for him to catch up in development with a plan such as Bg5, e3, Be2, 0-0. Black, for his part, understands that moves like 9 b4 must be hit *instantly* before the opponent has plugged up the holes behind the pawns with pieces. Otherwise they will become advanced and supported pawns rather than—as in the game—overextended stragglers.) **10 b5 cxb5 11 Nxb5?** (And here it would have been better for White to keep his pawns together, using cxb5 and a4, with the hope of his outside passed pawns somewhat offsetting Black’s massive pawn center.) **11...O-O 12 e3 Bb7 13 f3 Rc8 14 Qb2 d5** (A difficult decision, based on the feeling that to energize Black’s lead in development by opening up lines outweighed any advantages I would receive from pressuring his isolated pawn on the half open file.) **15 cxd5 Nxd5 16 Nd4 Ba8 17 Bd2 Bh4+!** (After having swung right, the Bishop now swings left! Notice after both ventures, serious positional concessions were won from White.) **18 Ke2** (Demoralization, although after 18 g3 Bf6 with threats of ...e5 and ...e4 White’s position was difficult.) **18...Rb8 19 Qc2 Nf4+ 20 Kd1 Bf6** (Back to yet another effective diagonal; the king’s bishop has had quite a career in this game!) **21 exf4 Qxd4 22 Ra2 Bd5 0-1** (Resignation was in order as White could not avoid heavy loss of material.)

Round 2

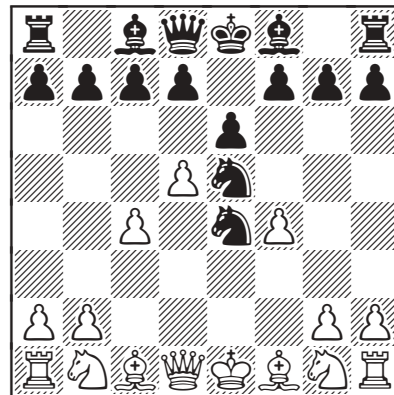
Most of all from this round I remember the demonic grin and blazing eyes that appeared on Steve Mayer’s face. The occasion for his delight was this: in a main line my opponent had just sacrificed a piece on move 5! I was to learn after the game that this devilish concoction was the brainwork of former state champion Ed Kitces, who had analyzed it with Mr Rufty some years ago. Kitces was a brilliant, creative, inventive, attacking player who settled in Richmond, a diabolical opening analyst, tricky tactician, and chess buccaneer extraordinaire. But alas! Over a

decade ago, Ed traded in a very promising career as a chess bum for a lavish home in Richmond’s elite West End, a trophy wife, several beautiful children, a couple BMW’s, and the general prestige in polite society that accompanies being a respected skin disease physician — obviously an irrational choice and a great loss for Virginia chess.

At any rate, *Virginia Chess* editor Macon Shibut later opined that the sacrifice was sound. I felt in some ways like the victim of some rather extensive Northern Virginia home-cookin’ — but then I stopped and caught myself. They don’t know what ‘home-cookin’ is in Northern Virginia! Gentlemen, I must disagree. I do not think the sacrifice was sound and I hope my notes will prove that. In any case, to the game... *Tangled Tango*.

RUSTY POTTER - ALAN RUFTY KEVITZ TRAJKOVICH DEFENSE

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 Nc6 3 d5 Ne5 4 e4 e6 5 f4 Nxe4



(A strange sacrifice not even considered by Georgi Orlov in his 128-page book on this opening, and I think for good reason. I do not believe the line is sound, although it was nasty to meet it unprepared over the board. What to do? It appeared too late to back out.) **6 fxe5 Qh4+** (Since I had been caught flat-footed by this innovation of my opponent I half-considered taking the perpetual at this point, eg, 7 Ke2 Qf2 8 Kd3 Nc5+ 9 Kc3 Ne4+ 10 Kb3 Nc5+ 11 Kc3 Ne4+ etc. Note that White could not play for the win after 10...Nc5+ 11 Ka3 Ne4+ 12 b4, due to 12...a5+! with powerful threats. However, 7 g3 was clearly the correct move if Black’s sac was



unsound and I recalled the words of Capablanca concerning his 1918 game versus Marshall, in which the American grandmaster unveiled his dangerous gambit defense to the Ruy Lopez: *"I thought for a little while before playing this, knowing that I would be subjected thereafter to a terrific attack, all of the lines of which would be of necessity familiar to my adversary. The lust of battle, however, had been aroused within me. I felt that my judgment and skill were being challenged by a player who had every reason to fear both (as shown by the records of our previous encounters), but who wanted to take advantage of the element of surprise and the fact of my being unfamiliar with a thing to which he had devoted many a night of toil and hard work. I considered the position then and decided that I was in honor bound so to speak, to take the [material] and accept the challenge, as my knowledge and judgment told me that my position should then*

be defensible.") 7 g3 N_{xg3} 8 h_{xg3} Q_{xh1} 9 N_{f3} e_{xd5} 10 c_{xd5} d6 11 Q_{e2} (The congestive pawn sac 11 e6 f_{xe6} 12 d_{xe6} B_{xe6} 13 Q_{e2} was also interesting.) 11...d_{xe5} 12 N_{xe5} B_{b4+} 13 B_{d2} B_{xd2+} 14 N_{xd2} O-O 15 O-O-O Q_{xd5} 16 N_{b3} (But perhaps this is over-reaching. With simply 16 Q_{f3} Black faces a middlegame with rook and two pawns for the two knights, true, but without one single passed pawn to his name. The pieces must be better in this type of situation. I decided instead to play in the true gambit style.) 16...Q_{e6} 17 B_{g2} c6 18 N_{d4} Q_{xa2} 19 B_{e4} Q_{a1+} (Black's queen is beginning to play the part of Nero, fiddling while Rome burns. Probably a better defense was to be had with some combination of ...g6 and/or ...B_{e6} and/or ...Q_{a5}) 20 B_{b1} c5 (Once again 20...g6 may have been more prudent.) 21 N_{b3} Q_{a6} 22 Q_{h5}! (White decides that if he must go into an endgame it is more important to trash Black's kingside pawn structure than the queenside to



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minimize Black's army of pawn ants.) **22...Qh6+ 23 Qxh6 gxh6 24 Nxc5 b6 25 Be4 Rb8** (Was simply giving up the exchange with 25...bxc5 26 Bxb8 Bf5 better than 25...Rb8? I'll leave this question to the analysts and their engines.) **26 Nc6 Bg4 27 Nd7 Bxd1** (The variations after 27...Bxd7 28 Rxd7 appear to me better for White, I think!) **28 Ncxb8 Bg4 29 Nxf8 Kxf8 30 Nc6** (What is good technique? Well, a key ingredient is to prophylactically eliminate the opponent's counterplay. White is less interested in chasing pawns than in getting a grip on f5, which I calculated would lock up Black's kingside.) **30...a6 31 Kd2 Kg7 32 Ke3 f6 33 Kf4 Be6 34 Nd4 Bc8 35 Nf5+ 1-0** (Black resigned since after 35...Bxf5 36 Kxf5! White's bishop will freeze his queenside and eventually Black will have to give up the f6 pawn. Should he try instead ...h5 and ...Kh6 then Kf6! by White will soon lead to a forced checkmate! eg, 35...Bxf5 36 Kxf5 h5 37 Bb7 a5 38 Bc6 Kf7 39 b3 Kg7 40 Bb5 Kf7 41 Bd3 Kg7 42 Bc4 Kh6 43 Kxf6 h4 44 g4 h3 45 Be2 h2 46 g5mate. My opponent wanted no part of such "helpmates." Instead he resigned the game and then, to the general astonishment, actually *withdrew* from the tournament altogether! But this was clearly an aberration, which I am sure that we will not see again...)

Round 3

Upon going to bed Saturday night, after two successful rounds, I had informally confirmed with Mike Atkins, the TD for the State this year, that it was rather unlikely that I would play a strong player such as Shibut or another Master so early.

Atkins felt like it would have taken a high number of draws for that to happen, so I went to bed and worried not. Imagine my irritation the following morning upon being paired with Macon Shibut, the highest-rated player in the tournament! I questioned Atkins closely on his pairing and reminded him of his "rather unlikely" comment. Well, to make a long story short, there had been a fair number of draws and the pairing was a must-pair for colors and other reasons. I examined the pairings and eventually felt compelled to agree. I then told him so, and, grumbling, went to my game. It must be said about Mike Atkins that after having played in a number of his tournaments, I have found him to be both highly competent and very fair. While I have questioned several of his pairings, I can truthfully say I have never objected to one when he explained the pairing rules involved. As a Senior TD myself, I have always felt it ethically important to let the TD know when I agreed with a given decision, however uncomfortable the ruling might happen to be.

MACON SHIBUT - RUSTY POTTER CARO-KANN

(GM Ljubomir Kavalek selected this game for publication in his *Washington Post* report on this year's Virginia State Championship. "LK" indicates the grandmaster's opinions in the notes that follow.) **1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 Nf3 Bg4 4 h3 Bxf3** (Okay, perhaps someday soon I will begin playing 4...Bh5, but until then...) **5 Qxf3 Nf6 6 Be2** (This Peewee Herman development of the king's bishop has for some reason remained a Shibut favorite. [*Well, I've played it twice now. -ed*]) **6...e5** ("Keeping the game close with with 6...e6 is usually preferable" -LK. After some thought I have decided that the esteemed grandmaster is correct. The light-squared chain of pawns running from f7 to d5 covers for my absent bishop nicely. In time Black will play a seamless French with c5 but with no bad bishop. In light of this, how much longer will our veteran editor keep his affection for 6 Be2?) **7 O-O Bb4 8 d3 Qa5** (I could have smashed Macon's pawn structure to pieces but the price would have been high. It is a good deal more



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daunting to defend against two bishops with *two knights* rather than a bishop and knight, as a following sample variation will show: 8...Bxc3 9 bxc3 dxe4 10 dxe4 Qa5 11 Rb1 b6 12 Bg5 Nbd7 13 Bc4 O-O 14 Rfd1 Rad8 15 Rd2 Qc5 16 Bb3 h6 17 Bh4 Qe7 18 Rbd1 g5 19 Bg3 Nc5 or 19...Kg7 20 Qf5 Rfe8) **9 Nd1 h6** (I'm not at all sure that, in spite of my airy light squares, simply seizing a big chunk of real estate with 9...d4 might not have been the best plan, eg, 9...d4 10 Bg5 Be7 11 c3 c5 12 cxd4 cxd4 13 b3 Nc6 14 Nb2 O-O 15 Nc4 Qb5 16 Rfc1 Rac8) **10 Ne3 Nbd7 11 Nf5** ("Opening the game with 11 exd5 cxd5 12 c4 would have given White's bishop pair more scope." - LK. Well, that's true, Grandmaster, but what about the vulnerable pawn on d3? Eg, 12...O-O-O 13 cxd5 Rhe8 with a view to eventually rounding up the front d-pawn... But this does take time. Perhaps the GM is right.) **11...Bf8 12 c3 g6 13 Ne3 Bg7 14 Bd1 O-O 15 Ng4 Nxc4 16 hxc4 Rad8** (16...Rfd8 17 b4 Qc7 18 Bb3 dxe4 19 dxe4 a5 20 Be3) **17 b4 Qc7 18 Bb3 dxe4 19 dxe4 c5!** (Black seeks to either *a*) limit the scope of White's Bishop pair; or *b*) create some weaknesses in White's pawn structure.) **20 bxc5?** ("Giving up important dark squares for an illusory stronghold on d5. Simply developing with 20 Be3 was better and after 20...c4 21 Bc2 the White bishops control the game." - LK. I agree that 20 Be3 was better, although after 21...c4 22 Bc2 Nb6 followed by doubling rooks Black is offering a sturdy defense.) **20...Nxc5 21 Bd5 Rfe8 22 g3** ("White still neglects piece development and allows a brilliant sacrifice that gives Black excellent practical chances. Again 22 Be3 would give White the edge." -LK. I agree that White's bishops are nice, but his ragged pawn structure is surely a source of Black counterplay after 22...Rd7 Δ Ne6 or Red8) **22...Rxd5!** ("Eliminates White's most active piece. Black gets enough play for the exchange by securing a dominating knight on the square d3" -LK) **23 exd5 e4 24 Qe3** ("After 24 Bf4 Qa5 25 Qe3 g5 26 Bd6 Nd3 Black is fine" - LK) **24...Nd3** ("The knight arrives" -LK) **25 Bd2?** (Kavalek felt that the soundness of my

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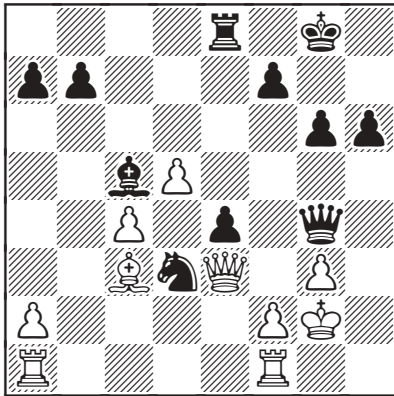
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exchange sac would have been put into question by 25 Qxa7 While I do agree it was a better defense than the one chosen in the game, I still feel Black's compensation is quite robust. If there is sufficient interest I will be glad to share this extensive analysis with the readers in a future issue of *Virginia Chess* **25...Bf8** ("Shifting the bishop to the more dangerous diagonal of a7-g1" -LK) **26 Kg2** (My opponent felt that a plan of 26 Qe2 followed by 27 Be3 would have "put Black's sacrifice to the test." I can't really agree with this since after 26 Qe2 Qc4! keeps White's pawns well and thoroughly split, eg, 27 Be3 b6 and Black's bind, with abundant compensation, continues.) **26...Qd7 27 c4 Qxg4 28 Bc3 Bc5**



29 Bd4? ("Blunders away the game instantly, but finding a good defense is not easy. For example after 29 Qxh6 f6! Black stops all mating threats and White has to retreat, since 30 Bxf6 Qf3+ 31 Kh2 Qxf6 loses a piece. On 30 Be1 Qf3+ 31 Kh2 Re7! 32.Qxg6+ Kh8 threatening 33...Rh7 Black wins. Diverting Black after 29...f6 with 30 d6 Bxd6 only postpones the inevitable, for example 31 Rad1 Nxf2 32 Rxf2 Bxg3! and Black wins; or 31 Bd2 Re5 32 Qh3 Qf3+ 33 Kg1 Bc5 34 Qg2 Qe2 with a powerful pressure." -LK. Here I must dissent from the good grandmaster. Instead of 29...f6, the simple 29...Qf3+ 30 Kh2 Ne5 is crushing after 31 Bxe5 Rxe5. Or, after 29...Qf3+, if 30 Kg1 Qxg3+ 31 Kh1 Qf3+ 32 Kg1 Bxf2+ 33 Rxf2 Qxf2+ 34 Kh1 Qf3+ 35 Kg1 Qg3+ mates next. Note that any time in this forcing sequence, if White played Kh2, then simply Ne5 threatening a knight fork at g4 and the bishop on c3, forces

Bxe5 Rxe5, which kills the king with rook to h-file on next move. All this leaves is 29...Qf3+ 30 Kh3, but again 30...Ne5! and if 31 Rac1 Bxf2 White's position is falling apart. 32 Rxf2 Qxf2 with a material and positional advantage; or if 31 Qd2 Kg7! and the rest is croutons.) **29...Bxd4 30 Qxd4 Nf4+ 0-1** ("After 31 Kh2 Qh3+ 32 Kg1 Ne2 mates and on 31 Kg1 Ne2+ wins the queen" -LK)

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Round 4

One thing was clear to me before this game, that I was certain to have White. I was still smarting from my perfectly legal and correct pairing from the round before, and at least now I would have the advantage of the first move against whatever master I would be paired against! Imagine my breathless horror upon being paired against last year's champion with my third game out of four with the Black pieces!! Dark thoughts of Northern Virginia conspiracies flickered through my head... no, no, got to fight to keep control. At any rate, I closely questioned the TD about this pairing. The ever-stoic and patient arbiter Atkins explained it all to me once again. Two perfect scores, the higher-ranked player gets due color. My heart sank. With an exasperated "Damn!", I left the room, stopped, and then quickly returned. "Uh, okay Mike, yeah. I would have done it the same way you did. It just seems like I've had bad luck." He nodded sympathetically, shrugged, and that was that. On to the game...

DANIEL MILLER - RUSTY POTTER CARO-KANN

1 e4 c6 (It was impossible not to notice the number of Caro Kanns in this tournament, sprouting up on many of the top boards like small, stubby little purple radishes, and with great success too. Black was winning most of the games! Why this newfound affection for such a stodgy, low sex-appeal debut? I suspect at least two of the reasons were: people with jobs having trouble keeping up on the endless flow of Sicilian sub-variations; and the energy demand on aging players of calculating variations. You have to save something for succeeding rounds. Personally, I played the Sicilian for twenty-five years, but in three years the Caro and I have become fast friends. He was my plain-vanilla, solid, dependable buddy. If the Caro were your pal, he would be the sort that you wouldn't hesitate to take with you bar-hopping. No danger of him snaking the better looking of the two babes in the corner booth.) **2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 Nf6 5**

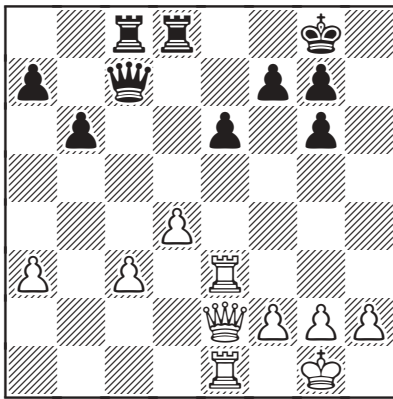
Nc3 e6 6 Nf3 Be7 7 Bd3 (The student should mistrust systems which seek to generically position their bishops before the pawn structure has clarified. Normal and standard of course is 7 cxd4 followed by either Bd3 or Bc4) **7...O-O 8 O-O dxc4 9 Bxc4 Nc6!** (Accurate timing, since 10 d5? Na5! wins a pawn.) **10 a3 b6 11 Re1** (White has mixed systems in a non-harmonious manner. He is, in effect, playing a passive Kozul variation of the Queen's Gambit Accepted, a tempo down to boot! He should probably admit that his opening experiment has failed to gain any advantage and liquidate into a draw with 11 d5) **11...Bb7 12 Ba2 Rxc8 13 Bg5** (I've been playing both sides of isolani positions for over thirty years. Over time, as a result of many battles, I have developed a scale which may be of interest to the readers. Roughly, it goes like this: if White has an IQP and can force the perforation ...g6 in Black's kingside without trading off *even one* set of pieces, then he is doing *extremely* well. If this perforation is forced with the swap of *one* or even *two* sets of pieces, it's going to be a hard-fought game with chances for both sides. But if *three* sets of pieces come off, then White's game is absolutely going downhill. With such reduced material White will not have enough attacking compensation to offset his structural weakness.) **13...Nd5 14 Bxe7 Ncxe7 15 Ne4 Ng6 16 Ne5 Nf6 17 Nxc6 hxc6** (This is not the kind of weakness that materially affects king safety, unlike when White is

able to force Black to play g7-g6. As Grandmaster Pachman has explained, doubled pawns defend about as well as undoubled pawns. It's only on the attack that the little fellows do not do so well due to their inability to form duos.)





18 Nc3 Nd5! (Resolutely pursuing swaps. While it is true that an isolated pawn chain is not so weak as an IQP, nevertheless if the base of said chain becomes fixed it becomes a *de facto* isolated pawn itself.) **19 Qd2 Nxc3 20 bxc3 Bd5 21 Re3 Bxa2 22 Qxa2** (White has managed to exchange off no less than *four* sets of minor pieces, while neither inducing a serious structural weakness around Black's king nor remedying his own. His game is teetering on a positional loss - if not already over the edge.) **22...Qc7 23 Rae1 Rfd8 24 Qe2**



24...Rd5? (The first of two bad moves. An interesting verbal exchange had occurred somewhere in the last half-dozen moves. My opponent offered me a draw, which of course I rejected. He later explained that by the time it got

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to this position he was "no longer playing for a draw." That this opinion is so much macho bravado is revealed in the following simple variation: 24...Qc4 25.Qg4 Rd5 26.Rh3 Rh5! 27.Rxh5 gxh5 28.Qxh5 Qxc3) **25 Rxe6! Qxc3 26 Re7!** (The move I missed. I had analyzed 26 Re8+ Rxe8 27 Qxe8+ Kh7 where White's pawns are rotten apples and he can undertake little significant action due to his weak back rank, eg, 28 g3 Rf5!) **26...Ra5?** (But this really does give White too much play. Black could still have kept control of the game with 26...Rc7, eg, 27 Re8+ Kh7 28 Ra8 Rxd4 29 Qe8 Qxe1+ 30 Qxe1 Rcd7 31 Kf1 Rd1; or 31 g3 Rd1 32 Qxd1 Rxd1+ 33 Kg2 Rd7) **27 h3 Rxa3 28 d5 Ra1 29 Rxa1 Qxa1+ 30 Kh2 Rc1 31 Qe4** (I felt compelled to play for a repetition here since, as Miller correctly pointed out in the post-mortem, in a queen and pawn ending White's *further advanced* passed d-pawn is certainly more dangerous than my two not-very-advanced pawns on the queen's wing.) **31...Rh1+ 32 Kg3 Qa3+ 33 f3 Qd6+ 34 Kf2 Qc5+ 35 Kg3 Qd6+ 36 Kf2 Qc5+ 37 Kg3 Qd6+ ½-½**

A hard-fought game! After this result was posted on the wall charts I discovered rather pleasantly that I was leading the tournament, and this in spite of two "bad" pairings. Compliments were starting to bubble in as I eyed the score table. 1½ out of 2 against the #1 and #2 ranked players, and both with the Black pieces at that! At this point, who should shuffle in the front door but the venerable and affable John Campbell, many years president of the Arlington Chess Club. He took off his cap, furrowed his brow, scrunched up his eyes, grimaced, and with a completely puzzled look on his face went into his best befuddled old man routine. In a voice somewhat elevated above others in the room, he began a monologue directed to TD Mike Atkins as well as the room in general: "Uh, Mi-ah-ah-eek. Now, wha-what was all that commotion I heard about this morning?" [much scratching of head] "Somethin' about *unfair pairings, or what was it?*" He looked up at the ceiling for answers but there were none there.



He turned to the door and then said “*Somethin’ didn’t seem fair, I just can’t remem... ummm*” [more scratching of brow and grimacing]. A guffaw burst uncontrollably from my astonished mouth. “John, you are too good,” I thought. Small chuckles began to fill the room, and then the signature John Campbell laugh, a kind of genteel hiccup, half-apology kind of laugh, as in “a-heh, a-heh, a-heh-heh-heh. (Repeat) A-heh, a-heh, a-heh-heh-heh.” My gaze drifted over to the TD, who had stopped all paperwork to savor this moment. His eyes were blazing like meteors and he flashed a motionless grin of Satanic vindication. I blushed, grinned and spoke to the floor, “All right, I guess I had that coming.” Gee, I thought afterwards, it sure is nice that I’m able to show all this phony humility — which you can do when you’re temporarily on top of things.

Round 5

Up all night. Something happened about 3:00 AM that hadn’t happened to me in a long time. My eyelids sprung open and I could *not* get back to sleep no matter how hard I tried. Who would I play in the morning? What colors would I have today? Would I be so close to this prize, as I had been before, only to see

it snatched out of my hands by some heartless usurper? And at 53, how many more chances would I have against the young Turks that were trickling out of the brain pool that rings the Washington suburbs? Who would upset my apple cart this year?

Bob Fischer? Rog Mahach? The always combative Steve Greanias? I began mumbling to myself in a quiet monologue. Variations spun off in my head, seventeen and eighteen moves deep in some opening lines. I was engaged in the classic game known as Brain Ball: simply throwing questions against the wall which bounce back with no answers. No solace there. My mind began to wander... I thought of some of the more amusing stories attached to my pursuit of this championship since 1963. Perhaps I will share these in a future edition... I continued to pace around outside. Finally, after about an hour and a half, I came back inside and laid down on my bed. Through slurred speech, my roommate said “Mmmmuhhmmmm. Rusty, you fool, you’ve been talkin’ to yourself outside for over an hour. Go to bed!” This followed by a grumpy “Grrmmphhhh.” Thus encouraged, I fell into a fitful sleep.

RUSTY POTTER - GARY DEFOTIS
NIMZOINDIAN

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 e6 3 Nc3 Bb4 4 e3 b6 5 Bd3 Bb7
6 Nf3 Ne4 7 O-O Bxc3 (Not good for Black here
is 7...Nxc3 8 bxc3 Bxc3 9 Rb1 with a tremendous

lead in development for the pawn.) 8

bxc3 f5 (Notice that Black will

get his knight trapped if he

tries to win a pawn with

8...Nxc3, eg, 9

Qc2 Bxf3 10 gxf3

Qg5+ 11 Kh1 Qh5

12 Rg1 Qxf3+ 13

Rg2 Qd1+ 14

Qxd1 Nxd1 15

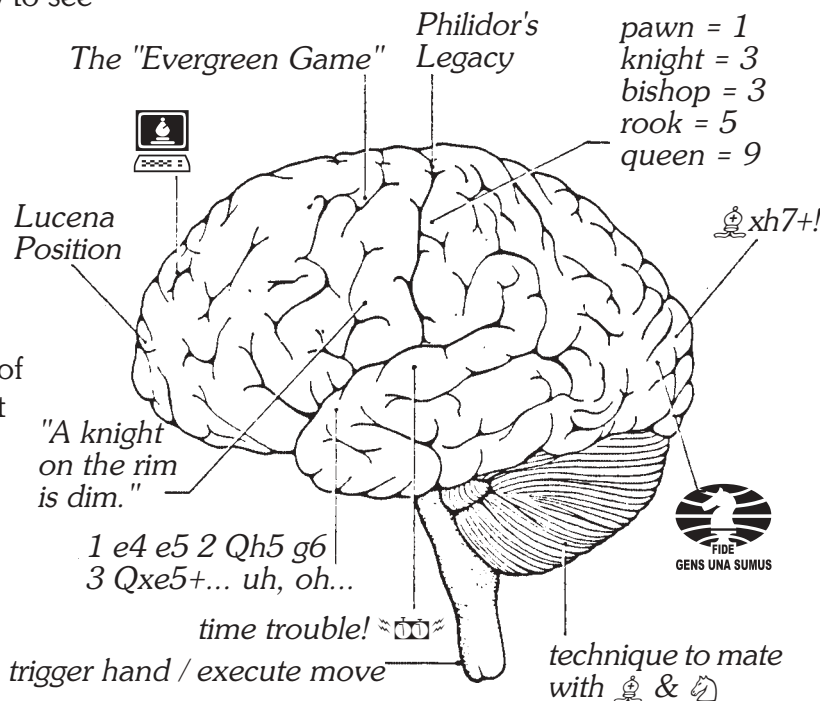
Bc2 Nc3 (or

15...Nxf2+ 16

Rxf2 d6 17 Bb2

Nd7 18 Rg1 g6)

16 Bb2 Ne2 17





Re1 The knight behaves more like a frog than a horse in this variation! An amusing line.) **9 Qc2 O-O 10 Ne1 Qh4** (Instead of leading with his queen, Black should have attended to the quiet development of his army with 10...d6 11 f3 Nf6 12 e4 fxe4 13 fxe4 e5 14 Nf3 Nbd7 with a double-edged struggle in progress.) **11 f3 Nf6 12 g3 Qh5 13 e4** (White has been trying to achieve this standard central pawn thrust while simultaneously fending off potshots against his somewhat lonesome king. Not so easy!) **13...fxe4 14 fxe4 Nc6 15 Ng2 g5 16 Ne3 h6** (16...Ng4 17 Nxc4 Qxc4, trading off pieces, may leave Black too vulnerable in view of the threat Ba3 and weaknesses on h7 and g5) **17 Ba3 d6 18 e5!** (The beginning of a sacrificial breakthrough that involves no less than *four* Zwischenzugs!) **18...dxe5 19 d5 exd5 20 Bg6** (The first Zw) **Qh3 21 Bf5** (second Zw) **21...Qh5 22 Be6+** (third Zw) **22...Kg7 23 Bxf8+** (fourth Zw!) **23...Rxf8 24 Nxd5** (At last, White recaptures on d5! However, notice that he prefers piece play to the routine undoubling of the c-pawns.) **24...Nxd5 25 Bxd5 Rxf1+ 26 Rxf1 Nd8** (Humiliation. Black is only too glad to undouble White's pawns after all!) **27 Qf5 Qe8 28 Qf6+ Kh7 29 Rf5 Bxd5 30 cxd5 1-0** (With the pawns finally undoubled, Black decides to throw in the towel. White's threat of Re5 and Re7 is simply too strong.

Sometime afterwards, DeFotis and I began an analysis outside the tournament hall, without board, of the highlights of our game. I had never met him before. He was intelligent, modest, and—best of all—had even less hair than I did. I liked him instantly. The analysis did not begin, however, before the two of us sang a couple of bars of *Auld Lang Whine*. One of us would say something like “Yeah, I’m proud to say that I was into chess well *before* the Fischer Boom,” and then the other, “We didn’t have computers in my day - we had to study *on our own*.” And, “Computer cheating has ruined Internet chess.” And, “Anyway, these kids on the ICC with their blitz games, that’s not *real* chess.” And most

importantly, “Yeah, there’s sure are a lot of strange ratings around these days. Don’t think these kid masters are quite as good as they were when I was at my peak ... Well, they don’t have to earn a living, do they?” And so forth, and so on. It sure was nice to find a fellow rating floor-bumper with at least half the taste for the alibi that I have developed over the years.

Concerning the game, I opined that due to the closed nature of the position, the pawn moves of each side had to *precede* the movements of the pieces, and further, that this was probably the cause of his early queen movements being repulsed with loss of time. He concurred and surprised me with the knowledge that I had come up with a twelve move deep book refutation of his plan. Since I had discovered this move over the board, this was gratifying news indeed. It was clear that he knew the line much better than I did. And then he said this: “I’ve played against lots of regular-strength masters, but you were clearly playing at International Master level during this tournament.” I had actually heard that from two other sources recently. I was at that moment seized by an inexpressible longing that was almost painful in its effect: where *did* these people get their wonderful medication? It seemed to make them so pleasant...

Round 6

From a friend: “Hey Russ, you gonna win this thing?” On the outside: “Nah, it ain’t over ‘till it’s over. You know that.” But inside, butterflies, well-concealed by the practiced indifferent shrug of a shoulder. I stared at the two names on the final pairing, *Potter vs Greanias*, seeing the names but thinking of half a dozen other things at the same time. I sat down with the TD and did the math about fourteen different ways, with this bottom line as a result: if I drew Greanias, and if Shibut beat Mayer, I would still win on tie-break. It didn’t matter whether you used Cumulative, Solkoff, Median, Kashdan, Sonneborne-Berger, or Boolean. If I were to draw Stevie G, it would take

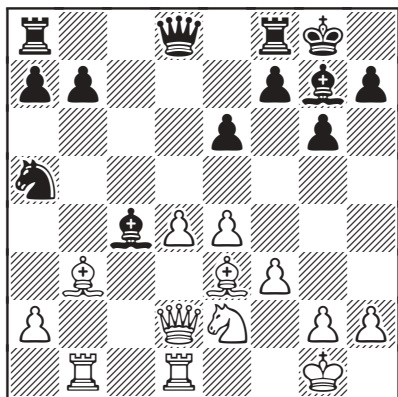


a direct hit by a comet to rob me of the state championship. Armed with this confidence-building knowledge, I quietly sauntered up to Board 1 and took my seat.

RUSTY POTTER - STEVE GREANIAS

GRÜNFELD

1 d4 Nf6 2 c4 g6 3 Nc3 d5 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4 Nxc3 6 bxc3 Bg7 7 Bc4 c5 8 Ne2 Nc6 9 Be3 O-O 10 O-O Bg4 11 f3 Na5 12 Bd5! (This is known as the Rovner Variation, after a Soviet Master active in the 1950s. His idea was that the king's bishop was no worse a target at d5 than it was at b3, and that the d4 pawn actually had better protection this way. I believe the line suffered a premature burial. I have expanded on some of Rovner's initial ideas and developed some interesting attacking schemes based on my queen bishop, king knight, and e-pawn. Time will tell whether this move is better than the more standard 12 Bd3, but I should mention that I have played the line against one A-player, two experts, and two masters, and my score is 5-0!) **12...cxd4 13 cxd4 Bd7 14 Qd2 e6** (Exactly. Black can win the hated bishop for knight but he must weaken his dark squares on the king's wing more than normal.) **15 Bb3 Bb5 16 Rfd1 Bc4 17 Rab1**



With just the right combination of Olympian calm and certitude in the rightness of my cause, I condescended to offer my surely-agreeable opponent a chance to get a clear lock on fifth place. "With this move, I propose a draw," I declared.

Although I should have been, I wasn't in reality prepared for my opponent's plucky response: "Well, I realize that by playing on I may not win this game, but I still think it will be a valuable learning experience." And he made his move...

17...b6

I found this to be a curious move. If Black is going to survive to an ending, he needs to chop off as much wood as possible here, eg 17...Nxb3 18 axb3 Bxe2 19 Qxe2 = Greanias was not convinced, however.

After the game Steve Mayer said, "Rusty, I looked at your position at the time of the draw offer, and you were frowning a lot. Your position didn't look that bad to me." I explained, "My position was that I was being forced against my will to play a full game of chess."

After the good Greanias declined my generous offer, I left the board for ten minutes, taken aback by the intrusion of reality into my dreamscape. I went to the bathroom and threw cold water on my face. I looked up at the graying visage staring back at me in the mirror and began to grumble in an increasingly-rising monologue. "Guuh-reeat! Once again, they're going to send the old man back to the hills empty-handed. Snatch the ring away from me at the last minute, will they? All because Stevie G wants a *!#-%\$?@^ chess lesson." The gray face whimpered back at me, "Don't they know I want to *stop* being a teacher every once in a while?"

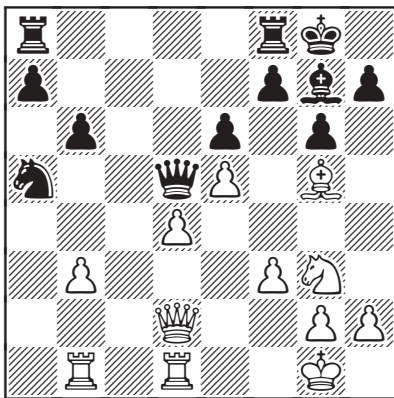
"Buck up!," the man in the mirror ordered. "Get a hold of yourself. Nobody ever got a draw by begging for one." Inspiring words, just the ones I needed to turn around my state of mind. I began repeating this phrase as if it were a mantra, chopping the air with a lecturing finger as I walked down the hall. My eyes were set with new conviction. My volume was increasing. Others took notice of this changed state too. An alarmed chess mom hustled one of her kids into the safety of the skittles room. "*Nobody ever got a draw*"... The strange man stalked by, still mumbling to



himself. The strange man seated himself at the board against Master Greanias and repeated it one last time, and then made his move...

18 Ng3 Qd7 19 e5 Bxb3 20 axb3 Qd5 (To prevent the dark-square death grip on the queen's wing Black needs to make a structurally-weakening ...f5 pawn move at some point hereabouts. By doing so he can keep White's advantage within manageable bounds, I believe.)

21 Bg5



21...f6?! (A more cold-blooded try was simply to take the proffered material with 21...Nxb3!? Some following variations indicate a difficult defense, but with possible survivability by Black: 22 Qf4 Rfc8!? (22...Rac8!? 23 Ne4 Nxd4 24 Nf6+ Bxf6 25 Qxf6 Qc5 26 Rbc1 Ne2+ 27 Kf1 Nxc1 28 Bh6 winning; 22...h6 23 Bxh6 Bxh6 24 Qxh6 Nxd4 25 Ne4 Qxe5 26 Ng5 Qg7 27 Qxg7+ Kxg7 28 Rxd4±) 23 Ne4 Nxd4 24 Nf6+ Bxf6 25 Qxf6 Qc5 (25...Qd8 26 Qxd8+ Rxd8 27 Bxd8 Rxd8 28 Kf2 Kf8 29 Rb4 Nc6 30 Rxd8+ Nxd8 31 Rh4 h5 32 Rc4±) 26 Rbc1 Ne2+ 27 Kf1 Qf8 28 Rxc8 Rxc8 29 Kxe2 winning) **22 exf6 Bxf6 23 Bxf6 Rxf6 24 Ne4 Rf5 25 Nc3 Qd7** (Steve felt 25...Qd6 offered good chances of holding the game, with a defense based on the pin on my d-pawn. Not so! Black's king is exposed, his knight badly out of play, the dark squares are weakened for ready occupation by White's queen and knight. These factors mean that Black's game is just strategically bad. No 'star' move is going to turn around such an inferior position, eg, 25...Qd6 26 d5 Rd8 27 Ne4! Qxd5 28 Qc3 Qa8 (or 28...Qxd1+ 29 Rxd1 Rxd1+ 30

Kf2 ±) 29 Nf6+ Kh8 30 Ng4+ ±) **26 d5 Rd8?** (Black should have swapped pawns, 26...exd5 27 Nxd5 Qf7, since allowing the d5 pawn to live permits it to grow into a monster.) **27 d6 Nb7 28 Ne4 Nc5 29 b4 Nb7** (At a number of key points in this game Greanias declined to reduce White's attacking chances by exchanging material and his position got steadily worse. As bad as Black's game was after 29...Nxe4 30 fxe4, it still would have been better to reduce cramp as much as possible., eg, 30...Rf7 31 e5 Rc8 32 Rbc1 Rxc1 33 Rxc1 Qd8 34 b5±) **30 Rbc1 Rc8 31 Rxc8+ Qxc8 32 Rc1 Qf8 33 Rc7 Rf7 34 d7 Nd8 35 Rxa7 Qe7 36 Qd4 1-0**

I intended to answer 36...Nc6 with 37 Qxb6, threatening 38 d8Q+. Thus, the rook would be immune to capture. Steve handed me his king here, and with it the crown of Virginia State Chess Champion.

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QUICK RELIEF

The Arlington Chess Club staged a charity quick chess (game / 20 minutes) event October 19. The tournament raised over \$700 for the Red Cross's 9/11 relief fund. Stan Fink, Michael Maguire & Mark Young tied for first in the open section with 4-1 apiece. John Donelson scored 4½-½ for clear first in the Under 1800 section.



BOBBY FISCHER scored 4½-½ to claim undivided first place at the 17th annual Emporia Open, held Oct 6-7, 2001 at its customary Greensville Ruritan Club site. There was a 4-way tie for 2nd between Macon Shibut, Ray Fletcher, Michael Buaiz & Ettie Nikolova, each with 4-1. Other prizewinners included Ilya Kremenchugskiy & Kevin Brown (tied for top class A); Herbert Edwards & Tobin Logan (= top B); Mark Bland (top C); Gary Hollingsworth (top D); and Burnice Bullock (top E). Ettie Nikolova took the top scholastic prize. Her sister Illinna tied with Dimitar Vlassarev for 2nd scholastic. Ben Bland won under-1200 scholastic.

EMPORIA OPEN

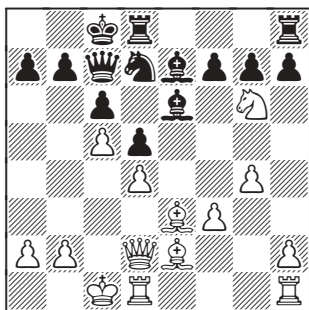
The decisive game of the event occurred in the penultimate round. Fischer defeated top-rated Shibut in the matchup between the only remaining perfect scores to that point.

MACON SHIBUT - BOBBY FISCHER BLACKMAR DIEMER GAMBIT *Notes by Macon Shibut*

1 e4 c6 2 Nc3 d5 3 d4 dxe4 4 Bc4 Nf6 5 f3 exf3

Since I am annotating a game I lost, I hope the reader will indulge me a moment to salve the pain by recalling a pleasant memory. A bit over a year ago I had this same opening versus Vladimir Polyakin at the 2000 Atlantic Open, in Washington DC. In that game Black declined the gambit pawn with 5...e3 (a popular choice with Caro-Kann players, who tend to be discomfited at the unexpected transposition to the Blackmar Diemer). After the further 6 Bxe3 Bf5 7 Nge2 e6 8 Nf4 Nd5?! (I do not understand this move but others besides Polyakin have played it against me in similar positions) 9 Ncxd5 exd5 10 Be2 Bd6 11 Qd2 Nd7 12 g4 Be6 13 0-0-0 Qc7 14 c4! 0-0-0 (if 14...dxc4 15 Nxe6 fxe6 16 Bxc4±) 15 c5

Be7 I got to fire a very cute shot: 16 Ng6! (*diagram*) hxg6 17 Bf4 Ne5 18 Bxe5 Qd7 19 Qa5! Much stronger than taking the g-pawn. Now Black absolutely has to eliminate my dark square bishop.



Thus his best line would be 19...Bf6 20 Bf4 g5 21 Bd6 Be7 22 Bg3 Rh3 23 Qxa7 Rxf3 but of

course White is winning in that case. Instead he played 19...Bg5+ which led to a funny conclusion: 20 Kb1 f6 21 Bd6 a6 22 Qb6 Qf7 23 Qa7 Rxd6 (or 23...b5 24 Qb8+ Kd7 25 Qc7+ Ke8 26 Qxc6+ Bd7 27 Qxa6 ΔBxb5, Rhe1+) 24 Qa8+ Kd7 25 Qxh8 and the other rook goes as well. Black pushed the pieces to the center of the board and left without a word. Oh well, back to the present...

6 Nxf3 Bf5 7 0-0 e6 8 Ne5 Bg6

A developing move such as 8...Be7 or 8...Nbd7 would be a mistake because of 9 Nxf7! Kxf7 10 Rxf5; but 8...Bxc2!? was possible (9 Qxc2? Qxd4+). White gets some attack chances in either case but I will save the details for—perhaps—another time...

9 g4!?

9 Bg5 is less committal. However, I remembered analyzing the text move about a year ago and even though I could not recall much of anything specific I knew I had been satisfied with White's chances.

9...Nbd7

One thing I did remember is that I'd concluded 9...Bd6 was best here, so now I felt even more encouraged at the way things were progressing.

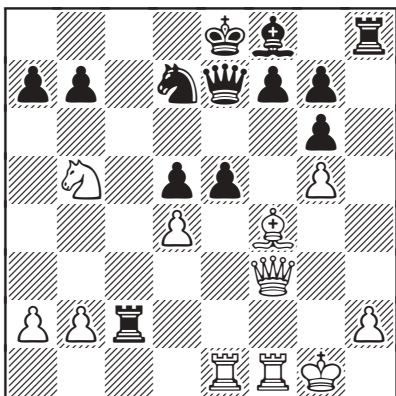
10 Nxf3 hxg6 11 g5 Nd5 12 Qf3 Qe7 13 Bxd5 cxd5 14 Nb5 Rc8 15 Bf4 e5! 16 Rae1

I had anticipated Black's 15th move and thought it his best try, but still I was very happy with my game now. I cheerfully ticked off possibilities like 16...e4? 17 Nd6+ Kd8 18 Nxb7+ Ke8 19 Nd6+ Kd8 20 Nxf7+ Ke8 (20...Qxf7 21 Bc7+) 21 Nd6+



Kd8 22 Nxc8, etc. And indeed, White's position still looks good to me now. However, neither during the game nor later have I been able to come up with variations to justify this evaluation. Perhaps the truth is that g4!? exposed White's king so much that after Black's next move his attack is fully equal to White's, despite his king in the center and the congested Qe7/Bf8

16...Rxc2!

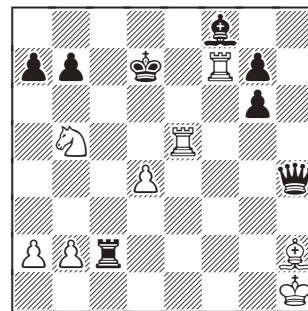


17 Bxe5

I was not satisfied with this move but thought for a long time and still could not find anything better. The obvious and critical line was 17 Qxd5!? (other possibilities I rejected included 17 Qb3!? Rc4; and 17 Nc7+?! Rxc7 18 Bxe5 Qxg5+ 19 Kh1 Kd8) when I feared 17... Rhxh2! 18 Bxh2 Qxg5+ 19 Kh1 Qh4 (diagram) 20 Rxe5+! (20 Qxf7+? even loses; White can't get back to defend h2) Now White is tantalizingly close to victory, but I couldn't analyze it to a conclusion I trusted and indeed it seems that Black comes out okay after 20...Kd8 21 Qxd7+! (the only way!) Kxd7 22 Rxf7+



Here's the critical moment. There are lots of ways Black can lose: 22...Kc8? 23 Re8+; 22...Kc6? 23 Rc7+ Kb6 24 Rxc2; 22...Kd8? 23 Rxf8+ Kd7 24 Rf7+ Kd8 25 Rd5+ Ke8 26 Nd6+ Kd8 27 Nf5+.

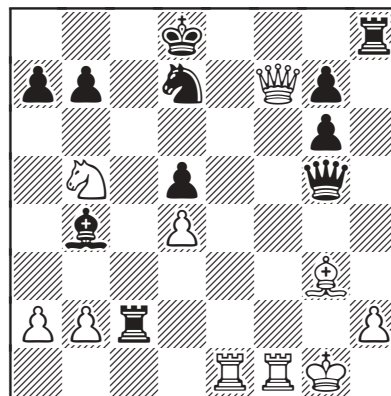


Unfortunately for my side, there's also 22...Be7! and after 23 Rfxe7+ Qxe7 24 Rxe7+ Kxe7 Black has an excellent rook plus an extra pawn versus two minor pieces. White will probably drop another pawn soon, or else mess up his piece coordination by the ugly maneuver B-d6-a3 (none of which I saw during the game, by the way). Perhaps I'm biased, anxious to justify my actual choice, but I think I would prefer Black in this ending. Thus 17 Bxe5...

17...Qxg5+ 18 Bg3+ Kd8 19 Qxf7 Bb4

I expected 19...Be7 so as to answer 20 Qxg7? with 20...Bf6. Instead White could further confuse matters with 20 Nc7!? threatening Ne6+ and after 20...Rxc7 21 Rxe7 I don't know what's going on but I don't mind being White.

He played the text move very quickly and at first was heartened, thinking he'd made a mistake. This may have in fact been *my* decisive mistake since it produced a frame of mind that yielded my next move, which I accurately termed "an irresponsible winning attempt" during the post mortem.





I started analyzing 20 Qxg7 and quickly saw that 20...Rcxh2 would be the reply— leading to a draw, I believed. Bobby indicated afterwards that he'd thought Black was winning in that case, but he'd overlooked the resource which I pointed out right after the game: 21 Re8+! Rxe8 (not 21...Kxe8? 22 Nc7+ Kd8 23 Ne6+ and takes the queen) 22 Kxh2 Re2+ 23 Rf2 Rxf2+ 24 Bxf2 Qh5+ 25 Kg2 and I figured Black gives perpetual check (25...Qg4+) since in my mind's eye White still had serious threats. Looking at it now, the threats don't seem so fearsome and Black does have an extra pawn, so maybe just 25...a6= Be that as it may, I rejected 20 Qxg7 because it wasn't winning *for White* and instead I lashed out with a move that fits Tarrasch's description, "playing to lose."

20 Re5? Nxe5 21 Qxd5+ Kc8! 22 Qe6+

I'd overlooked that after 22 dxe5 Black has the devastating 22...Bc5+ Then 23 Kh1 (if 23 Nd4 Qd2 wins) Qxg3 24 Nxa7+ Bxa7 25 Rf8+ Rxf8 26 hxg3 wins the queen but, alas, 26...Rf1 is mate.

Of course White could play 22 Qxe5 but after 22...Qxe5 23 Bxe5 a6 the ending is hopeless. Instead I opted for a few more 'threats' but Black's are stronger.

22...Nd7 23 Nxa7+ Kd8 24 Rf7 Rc1+ 25 Kg2 Rxh2+ 26 Kxh2 Qh5+ 27 Kg2 Qh1+ 28 Kf2 Qf1+ 29 Ke3 Re1+ 30 Bxe1 Qxe1+ 0-1

Woody Harris organized and directed the event, as always. With its serene rural setting and free food offerings, the Emporia Open remains one of the the state's most pleasant annual events. Keep your calendar open for next Columbus Day's weekend!



NORTHERN VIRGINIA OPEN

by Mike Atkins

Seventy-three players came to the Northern Virginia Open November 3-4. This was the last event scheduled for the Mt Vernon hotel as it has become too expensive to rent. Look for a brand new (*and much better!*) site when the February classic tournament is announced!

IM Enrico Sevillano took clear first at 5½/6. He defeated Emory Tate in the final round, while Boris Privman was held to a draw by IM Adrian Negulescu. Three tied for 2nd-3rd: IM Larry Kaufman, Privman & Yevgeniy Gershov. Paul Yavari was Top Expert with 4½. Class A was split four ways at 4-2 among David Slack, Chris Sevilla, Thomas Rehle & Josh Specht. Class B was split at 4-2 between Andrew Samuelson & David Paulina. At 3½, Frank Huber & Keadu Belachew took class C. With 3-3, Wilfredo Acevedo won class D and Chukwuma Obi was top unrated. The two Hollingsworth brothers, Tyler and Alec, scored 2½ to earn under 1200 book prizes. Top Scholastic, winning a clock, was John Rouleau with 4-2.

Sevillano led from start to finish, yielding only a draw to his fellow IM Negulescu. Samuelson's road to a share of the B prize made for quite a tournament. He stood 3-0 at the half, drew with master Privman in rd 4, lost to Tate in rd 5, and drew with Israeli FIDE expert Peter Gukhvat in the last round. Rated 1798, Samuelson achieved a FIDE ratable performance around 2240! D winner Acevedo had the best rating performance, gaining over 130 points. The biggest single game upset of the weekend was Tyler Hollingsworth's (937) defeat of Daniel Cook (1566).

For complete crosstable browse <http://www.wizard.net/~matkins/nova.htm>

EMORY TATE - ENRICO SEVILLANO
ENGLISH

1 c4 e5 2 g3 Nc6 3 Bg2 g6 4 Nc3 Bg7 5 Qa4 Nf6
6 b4 O-O 7 b5 Nd4 8 Ba3 Re8 9 e3 c6 10 d3



cxb5 11 cxb5 Nf5 12 Nge2 d5 13 O-O d4 14 exd4
 exd4 15 Ne4 Nxe4 16 dxe4 d3 17 Nf4 Nd4 18
 Rab1 Bd7 19 Qc4 Qa5 20 Bb4 Qxb5 21 Qxd3
 a5 22 Bd6 Qxd3 23 Nxd3 Bb5 24 Rfd1 Ne2+ 25
 Kf1 Nc3 26 Rxb5 Nxb5 27 e5 Rad8 28 Nc5 Bxe5
 29 Nxb7 Nxd6 30 Nxd8 Rxd8 31 Rd5 Bc3 1-0

ADRIAN NEGULESCU - BORIS PRIVMAN

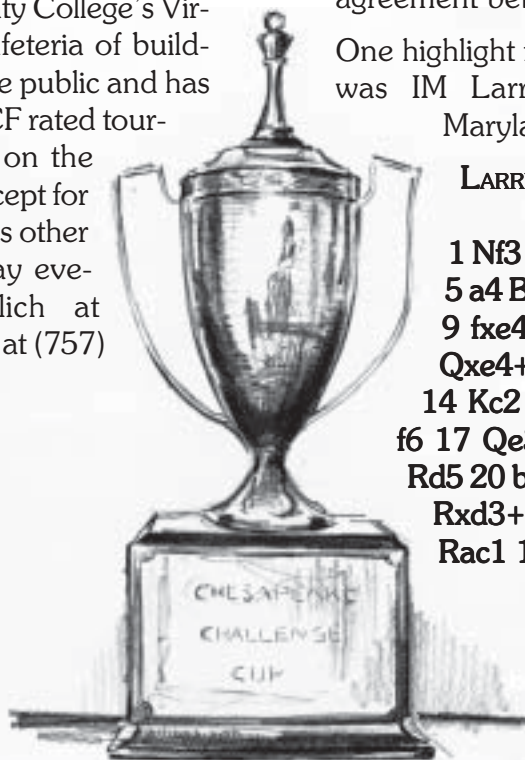
FRENCH

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 Nc3 Nf6 4 Bg5 Bb4 5 e5 h6 6
 Bd2 Bxc3 7 Bxc3 Ne4 8 Bd3 Nxc3 9 bxc3 c5 10
 Qg4 g6 11 dxc5 Nd7 12 Bb5 Qc7 13 Qd4 O-O
 14 Bxd7 Bxd7 15 Nf3 Rfc8 16 Rb1 Rab8 17 Qf4
 Qxc5 18 Qxh6 Qxc3+ 19 Kf1 Qxc2 20 Re1 Qc4+
 21 Kg1 Qg4 22 h4 Qh5 23 Qe3 b6 24 Rh3 Rc4
 25 Rg3 Re4 26 Qd2 Rxe1+ 27 Qxe1 Qf5 28 Qc1
 Rc8 29 Qh6 Rc3 30 Kh2 Be8 31 h5 Rc4 32 hxg6
 fxg6 33 Qe3 Rg4 34 Rxg4 Qxg4 35 Qa3 Qf4+
 36 Kg1 a5 37 Qe7 Qc1+ 38 Kh2 Qf4+ 39 Kg1
 Qc1+ 40 Kh2 Qf4+ 1/2-1/2



TIDEWATER CHESS CLUB

Meets Monday evenings from 6:30 to 10:00
 pm at the Tidewater Community College's Vir-
 ginia Beach campus in the cafeteria of build-
 ing D (Kempsville). Open to the public and has
 no dues. Casual play and USCF rated tour-
 naments. Rated Quick chess on the
 first Monday of each month except for
 major national holidays; various other
 events on subsequent Monday eve-
 nings. Contact Ernie Schlich at
eschlich@aol.com or by phone at (757)
 853-5296



Chesapeake Cup drawing
by Bill Simmons

CHESAPEAKE CUP

The University of Maryland Chess Club plundered
 the Arlington Chess Club October 19 and the
 Chesapeake Challenge Cup was the booty.

The Chesapeake Challenge Cup is a rotating club
 team trophy that grew out of an informal rivalry
 between Maryland clubs and now is open to any
 team from the Chesapeake Bay drainage basin —
 basically Maryland, Delaware, and most of
 Virginia. Arlington had held the cup since October,
 1999 when it defeated the Fort Meade Chess
 Armory chess club.

The format for Cup challenge matches calls for
 each team to field players of varying strength, eg,
 a 12-board match between teams composed of
 two Masters (no limit), two Expert, and two each
 from classes A, B, C & D. The defending team
 hosts the match and plays White on odd-
 numbered boards. It is possible that a particular
 challenge could include additional type boards
 (juniors, seniors, women, etc) by mutual
 agreement between the clubs.

One highlight for Arlington in its match defeat
 was IM Larry Kaufman's win over the
 Maryland Master Anton Del Mundo.

LARRY KAUFMAN - ANTON DEL MUNDO
SLAV

1 Nf3 d5 2 d4 Nf6 3 c4 c6 4 Nc3 dxc4
 5 a4 Bf5 6 Ne5 e6 7 f3 Bb4 8 e4 Bxe4
 9 fxe4 Nxe4 10 Bd2 Qxd4 11 Nxe4
 Qxe4+ 12 Qe2 Bxd2+ 13 Kxd2 Qd5+
 14 Kc2 Na6 15 Nxc4 O-O-O 16 Qe5
 f6 17 Qe3 Qf5+ 18 Kb3 Nc5+ 19 Ka3
 Rd5 20 b4 Rhd8 21 bxc5 Rd3+ 22 Bxd3
 Rxd3+ 23 Kb2 Kb8 24 Qe2 Qd5 25
 Rac1 1-0



ARLINGTON OPEN

by Mike Atkins

SEVENTY PEOPLE came to play over the Oct 13-14 weekend at George Mason University. It was a really strong field—41 of the 70 were Class A or higher, 21 were over 2000, and 14 were Masters. It was a great weekend of tough chess at a great location!

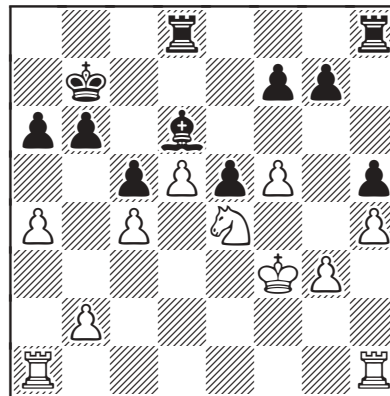
As usual, most of the prizewinning results came down to final round performances. Ilye Figler entered the finale with 4-0 and a ½ point lead on the field. He was played to a draw by the top-rated player on the wallchart, FM Stas Kriventsov. That left 5 people with a chance to catch him at 4½. FMs Emory Tate and John Meyer played an amazing swashbuckling game; just when it seemed like Meyer had him, a queen was dropped and Tate joined the winner's circle. FM Bryan Smith and IM Oladapo Adu played a seesaw game with Smith holding the advantage most of the way, but Adu held on for the draw to leave them both a ½ point behind. FM Boris Privman, as low man in the 3½ pt group, was paired down to FM Gershov and won to create the three way tie at 4½-½.

Other prizewinners included Kriventsov, Adu & Stan Fink (=4th); Ray Kaufman (top expert); Matthew Grinberg, Daniel Pomerleano & Bora Yagiz (=top A); Daniel P Summers, Pete Melissakis, Peter Brian Snow & Alexander Kane (=B); John Brinski (C); Christopher Snell (D); Shanker Raman, Marika Litras & Kevin Hyde (=under 1200); and Chukwuma Obi (unrated).

EMORY TATE - VLADIMIR GRECHIKHIN RUY LOPEZ

(An example for the next edition of Steve Mayer's *Bishop v Knight: the Verdict*) 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 Nc6 3 Bb5 Nge7 4 c4 d6 5 d4 Bd7 6 d5 Nb8 7 Na3 a6 8 Bxd7+ Nxd7 9 Be3 Nf6 10 Qa4+ Qd7 11 Qxd7+ Nxd7 12 Nd2 Ng6 13 g3 Be7 14 h4 h5 15 Nb3 b6 16 Nc2 Nc5 17 Bxc5 dxc5 18 Nc1

Bd6 19 Nd3 Ne7 20 f4 Ng6 21 f5 Nf8 22 Ne3 Nd7 23 Ke2 Nf6 24 Nf2 O-O-O 25 Kf3 Kb7 26 a4 c6 27 dxc6+ Kxc6 28 Nd5 Nxd5 29 exd5+ Kb7 30 Ne4



30...a5 31 Ng5 Rdf8 32 Ke4 Be7 33 Nf3 Bd6 34 Raf1 f6 35 Rhg1 g6 36 Nd2 Rhg8 37 g4 gxf5+ 38 Kxf5 hxg4 39 Ne4 Bc7 40 Rxc4 Rh8 41 Rg7 Kc8 42 Rh1 Rh6 43 h5 Bd8 44 Nd6+ Kb8 45 Nf7 1-0

YEVGENIY GERSHOV - ILYE FIGLER CARO-KANN

1 e4 c6 2 c4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 cxd5 Qxd5 5 Nc3 Qd6 6 Nf3 a6 7 d4 Nf6 8 Be2 Nc6 9 O-O Be6 10 Bg5 Rd8 11 Bxf6 gxf6 12 Qa4 Qb4 13 Qxb4 Nxb4 14 Rfd1 Bh6 15 a3 Nd5 16 Nxd5 Bxd5 17 Nh4 e6 18 Bf3 Ke7 19 Bxd5 Rxd5 20 Nf3 Rc8 21 Rd3 Rc2 22 b3 Kd6 23 Kf1 b5 24 b4 Rf5 25 Re1 Kd5 26 Re2 Rc1+ 27 Re1 Kc4 28 Rxc1+ Bxc1 29 Ke2 Rd5 30 Nd2+ Bxd2 31 Rxd2 Rxd4 32 Rc2+ Kb3 33 Rc7 Kxa3 34 Rxf7 f5 35 Rxh7 Kxb4 36 h4 a5 37 h5 a4 38 g3 a3 39 h6 Rd8 40 Ra7 Kb3 41 h7 Rh8 42 f3 a2 0-1

JONAS ERIKSSON - BORIS PRIVMAN PIRC

1 d4 d6 2 g3 Nf6 3 Bg2 Nbd7 4 e4 e5 5 Ne2 g6 6 O-O Bg7 7 h3 O-O 8 Nbc3 c6 9 a4 a5 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 Be3 Qc7 12 Nb1 Rd8 13 Qe1 Bf8 14 Na3 Nc5 15 Nc3 b6 16 f4 Ba6 17 Rf2 Nh5 18 Rf3 Ne6 19 Bf1 Bxf1 20 Qxf1 Nxc3 21 Qf2 exf4 22 Bxb6 Qxb6 23 Qxb6 Bc5+ 24 Qxc5 Nxc5 25 Rxf4 Rd4 26 Kf2 Nh5 27 Ke3 Nxf4 28 Kxd4 Nce6+ 29 Ke3 Nxc3 30 Nc4 Nhg5 31 Ne5 c5 32 Nd5 Kg7 33 Nc4 Nd4 34 Kd3 Nc6 35 c3 h5 36 Rh1 Re8 37 Ndb6 and White eventually lost on time 0-1



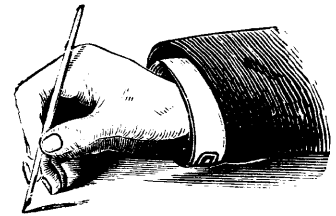
VSCA RECEIVES UKROPS GIFT, FORMS PARTNERSHIP WITH ADT

The Virginia Scholastic Chess Association (VSCA) has become a beneficiary of the Ukrops Golden Gift program. Members who shopped at any Ukrops super markets and used their valued customer card between January 1 and March 1 were awarded certificates which could be donated to any local non-profit organization. "Even though we entered the program quite late and the gift this year was rather small, it is indicative of what can be achieved if we focus on the program early on as we fully intend to do," said VSCA president Peter Hopkins.

Hopkins noted with gratitude that fund raising efforts on behalf of scholastic chess were becoming more successful each year. "In particular, the generosity of the Schwab Fund For Charitable Giving has made it possible for the VSCA to sponsor an autistic child with unusual chess talent, providing chess books, lessons with an international master, and expenses to local, state and national chess tournaments."

"There is definitely a ripple effect underway. Because donors such as Farmers Insurance, the J C Penney Foundation and the Ford Motor Company have shown confidence in the VSCA's ability to carry out its mission, other donors are more willing to step forward. The most recent example is the invitation from ADT security systems to join its Affinity Partners Program. The largest ADT dealer in Virginia, Wireless Services, Inc, will donate \$100 to the VSCA for each

Next Issue

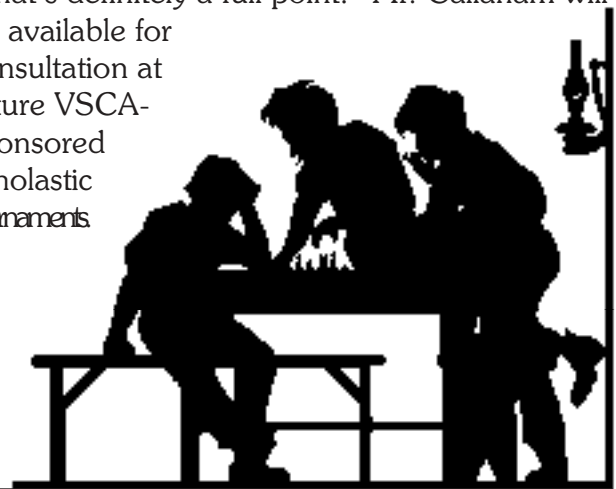


The next issue of *Virginia Chess* will be assembled immediately following the 2002 Virginia Open. Therefore, the deadline for submitting material for publication is January 13. The editor plans to be in Fredericksburg for the Open January 11-13, so you may hand-deliver material to him there if you choose.

complimentary gift certificate redeemed for the installation of its Home Security System."

Mike Callaham, local ADT agent and chess player with a USCF class A rating, said "This is a real win-win situation. Anyone who takes advantage of the offer gets all of the equipment and installation at no cost and the VSCA gets \$100.

That's definitely a full point!" Mr. Callaham will be available for consultation at future VSCA-sponsored scholastic tournaments



The **Virginia Chess Federation** (VCF) is a non-profit organization for the use of its members. Dues for regular adult membership are \$10/yr. Junior memberships are \$5/yr. **President:** Mark Johnson, PO Box 241, Barboursville VA 22923, rmj142@yahoo.com **Vice President:** Mike Atkins, PO Box 6139, Alexandria VA 22306, matkins@wizard.net **Treasurer:** F Woodrow Harris, 1105 West End Dr, Emporia VA 23847, fwh@3rddoor.com **Secretary:** Helen Hinshaw, 3430 Musket Dr, Midlothian VA 23113, ahinshaw@erols.com **Scholastics Chairman:** Mike Cornell, 12010 Grantwood Drive, Fredericksburg VA 22407, kencorn@erols.com **Internet Coordinator:** Roger Mahach, 7901 Ludlow Ln, Dunn Loring VA 22027, rmahach@vachess.org **VCF Inc. Directors:** Helen Hinshaw (Chairman); Roger Mahach; Mark Johnson; Mike Atkins; Mickey Owens.



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**How he won
the State Championship**

**Rusty Potter
Looks Back**

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2001 - #6